

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner has requested that Figures 1-5 should include a "Prior Art" label. Please find enclosed twenty sheets of amended drawings identified as "Replacement Sheets."

### REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the current application. In an office action dated April 30, 2008 ("Office Action"), the Examiner objected to Figures 1-5, rejected claims 2-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Greene et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0143861 A1 ("Greene"). Applicant has amended claim 2 to address the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. §112 rejections of claims 2-8, has included amended drawings to address the Examiner's objection to the drawings, and respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. §102(a) rejections of the current claims as being anticipated by Greene.

Greene discloses a system by which a data processing system stores cookies on behalf of clients. When a web browser running on the client subsequently needs a cookie, the cookie can be retrieved from the data-processing system. The cookie is identified using an ID for the cookie supplied by the client web browser. The server, or data-processing system, locates the stored cookie, optionally replaces information in the stored cookie, and then returns the cookie to the requesting browser running on the client computer. An overview of Greene's system is shown in Figure 5 of Greene. In that figure, two client computers 502 and 504 store cookies on, and retrieve cookies from, the host computer 500 that executes a web server 506 that receives and responds to requests for storing and retrieving cookies.

By contrast, the current application is directed to an intermediary session server (602 in Figure 6 of the current application) which includes a server component 610 and a client component 612. The client component contains a set of  $n$  finite-state machines 614-616 in Figure 6. As discussed in the paragraph of the current application beginning on line 13 of page 9, the client computers (604-606 in Figure 6) send URL-based requests to the intermediary session server 602 and receive, in response, HTML documents specified by the URLs. As discussed in the current application, the URLs are often directed to what is referred to as "mid-point pages" supplied by a particular source server (608-609 in Figure 6). The mid-point pages are pages to which clients navigate through interaction with a browser, during the navigation receiving HTML descriptions

of documents which include state information needed to be extracted and returned to the source server in order to access successive web pages of the dialog. As discussed in the current application beginning on line 13 of page 5, it is not sufficient for the client computers to simply store this state information and then subsequently return the state information in a new URL request in order to recover a mid-point page. Instead, the intermediary session server 602 locates a stored URL for the client computer corresponding to a requested URL, and supplies the stored URL to a finite-state machine (614-616) on the client-component side of the intermediary session server so that the finite-state machine can replay initial portions of the HTML-document-based dialog with the source server leading up to reception of the mid-point page desired by the client computer. By repeating the initial portions of the interaction with the source server, new state information, equivalent, but generally not identical, to a previous state, is obtained, and the new state information is returned to the client computer, along with the mid-point HTML page, allowing the client computer to resume the dialogue with the source computer starting from the returned mid-point HTML page. In other words, as thoroughly discussed in the above-referenced portion of the current application, the intermediary session server does not merely store cookies or other static state information, but instead replays an initial part of an HTML-document-based conversation with the source server in order to reach a point in the dialogue with the source server equivalent to the point initially reached when the mid-point URL was first returned to the client.

Clearly, Greene and the current application are directed to quite dissimilar systems. For example, it is quite clear, in comparing Figure 5 of Greene to Figure 6 of the current application, that Greene does not in any way teach, mention, or suggest an intermediary session server that lies between client computers and web servers, and there is obviously no mention, teaching, or suggestion in Greene for any type of intermediary-session-server component that executes a series of URL requests to, and receives corresponding HTML-document replies from, a source server in order to again navigate to a mid-point page to which a client computer had previously navigated through a similar interaction.

Consider the rejection of claim 1. In the rejection of claim 1, the Examiner refers to the state-information database (524 in Figure 5) as the storage component of the currently claimed intermediary server "that stores an association between a finite-state machine and a document-location specifier." Paragraph [0043] of Greene, cited by the Examiner, discusses how the host computer (500 in Figure 5), which contains this state-information database, receives state information from a client and stores the state information into the state-information database. However, there is not a single mention in paragraph [0043] of Greene of a finite-state machine. In fact, Greene does not once teach, mention, or suggest any type of finite-state machine.

The Examiner appears to read the claim phrase "an association between a finite-state machine and a document-location specifier" onto the phrase "state information" used in Greene. However, this interpretation violates basic principals of claim interpretation. This is analogous to reading the term "horse" onto the term "automobile" because a cited reference uses the more general term "transportation means" in referring to automobiles. Applicant did not claim storage of generalized state information, but instead specifically claimed storage of "an association between a finite-state machine and a document-location specifier." That association is not state information of a user's input to web pages, such as the information stored in a cookie, or state information of a source server. Instead, it is a logical pairing of, in one embodiment of the present invention, a URL with a finite-state machine. As can be seen in Figure 6, a stored association is needed in order to respond to a subsequent mid-point page request made by a client computer. The document-location specifier, in this case a URL, specified by the request is used to locate the stored association between the URL and a finite state machine, or, in other words, to identify a particular finite-state machine (614-616) of the client component to invoke in order to again interact with a source server to reach the mid-point page as part of a web-page-based dialogue. For this reason alone, the Examiner's rejection clearly fails. The stored association has nothing whatsoever to do with the static user-related state information stored in Greene's state-information storage component.

Continuing with the rejection of claim 1, the Examiner reads the phrase "a

client component" onto an entirely separate and different computer (502 in Figure 5 of Greene) than the host computer that contains the state-information database (524 in Figure 5). However, claim 1 is directed to an intermediary server which comprises the storage component and the client component. In fact, the claimed intermediary server computer additionally includes a server component. In Figure 6 of the current application, the intermediary session server 602 is clearly shown as containing a server component 610, a client component 612, and a storage component 618. The storage component, client component, and server component are all part of a single intermediary session server, and are not distributed both over a client computer and a server computer. For this reason, the Examiner's rejection clearly fails.

The claimed client component, according to claim 1, "executes a finite-state machine corresponding to a mid-point document in order to obtain the mid-point document and a state associated with the mid-point document from a source server." The Examiner reads this claim language onto a client computer (502 in Figure 5) in Greene's architecture that accesses a server computer (500 in Figure 5) to obtain cookies. The Examiner appears to read the phrase "finite-state machine" onto the web server (506 in Figure 5) that is a component of the host computer (500 in Figure 5) in Greene's architecture. However, the Examiner suggests that the client computer, which is a separate computer from the host computer in Greene's architecture, executes this finite state machine. Computers execute programs, not remote web servers. There is no basis in computer science or in the knowledge of anyone familiar with computer programming that would justify referring to a remote client computer as the client component of a server and referring to the server as a finite-state machine executed by that client computer. Furthermore, in paragraph [0040] of Greene, Greene does not once teach, mention, or suggest a finite-state machine that corresponds to any kind of document, let alone a "mid-point document" in order "to obtain the mid-point document and a state associated with the mid-point document."

Next, the Examiner reads the claim phrase "a server component" onto the same web server (506 in Figure 5) on which the Examiner previously read the claim phrase "finite state machine." This violates every principal of claim interpretation.

Obviously, Applicant uses different phrases in a claim to refer to different entities. Otherwise, the claim would be ambiguous and indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112. A claimed "server component" is, by fundamental principals of claim interpretation, different from the claimed "client component." For the Examiner to attempt to read both entities onto a single web server, to which neither is in any way related, makes no sense.

The Examiner next attempts to read the claim phrase "receives a document-location specifier specifying the mid-point document from a client computer" onto the web server described in paragraph [0040] of Greene. However, this paragraph does not once teach, mention, or suggest "a document-location specifier specifying the mid-point document." Many web servers would, in fact receive such requests, but the fact is that Greene does not teach, mention, or suggest anything at all about mid-point documents.

Next, the Examiner attempts to read the claim phrase "retrieves the association between the finite-state machine and the document-location specifier" onto paragraph [0042] of Greene. This paragraph describes the fact that, in Greene's system, when a user logs into a client computer, the browser on that client computer may retrieve state information associated with the user from the state information database on the host computer. There is not a single mention or suggestion of anything at all related to finite state machines or document-location specifiers in this paragraph. Note that, in Greene, the state information is associated with the user on the client computer. It is not taught, mentioned, or suggested in Greene that the state information includes association between URLs and finite-state machines.

Next, the Examiner attempts to read the claim phrase "invokes the finite-state machine to obtain the mid-point document and the state associated with the mid-point document from the source server" on the same paragraph, paragraph [0042], of Greene cited for the previous claim element. Again, there is no mention of finite-state machines invoking finite-state machines, mid-point documents, or anything else in this claim phrase in that paragraph. Paragraph [0042] of Greene has nothing whatsoever to do with finite-state machines or invoking finite-state machines, but is instead directed to recovering user-associated state information by a browser on a client computer from a data-storage system.

Finally, for the claim phrase "returns to mid-point document and state associated with the mid-point document to the client computer," the Examiner refers again to paragraph [0040] of Greene. This paragraph describes a client that includes state information regarding a user in the form of a cookie file, and does not teach, mention, or suggest anything about returning state information from a server to a client computer, does not mention anything at all about mid-point documents, and does not mention anything related to state information associated with documents.

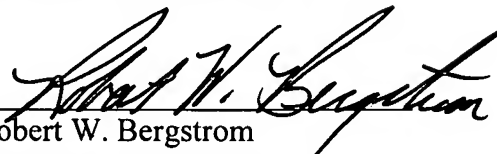
Greene has really nothing to do with the subject matter to which the current claims are directed. As discussed above, Greene does not teach, mention, or suggest any of the limitations of claim 1. Because these limitations are repeated in the other independent claim of the current claims, claim 9, it is clear that Greene cannot possibly anticipate either of the two independent claims in the current claim set, and therefore cannot possibly anticipate any of the claims in the current claim set, including those that depend from claims 1 and 9.

Again, simply comparison of Figure 5 of Greene to Figure 6 of the current application would convince anyone familiar with computer science that the current application is directed to subject matter quite different from that of Greene. Greene describes a system in which client computers interact with a server computer. By contrast, the current application describes an intermediary server that lies between client computers and server computers from which client computers request web pages. An intermediary server executes finite-state machines in order to replay previously conducted interactions between the client computer and source computers. There is no such entity taught, mentioned, or suggested in Greene. Moreover, the Examiner attempts to read claim language directed to the intermediary server onto components of both client computers and host computers in Greene's figure. This is, of course, nonsensical. Under M.P.E.P. §2131, to anticipate a claim, a reference must teach each and every element of the claim to the level of detail contained in the claim. Greene fails to teach, mention, or even remotely suggest any of the elements of the independent claims of the current application.

In Applicant's representative's opinion, all of the claims remaining in the

current application are clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

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